

CLAIMS

1. A computer-implemented method, comprising:
 - receiving data representing a first color representing a first ink and a second color representing a second ink and one or more color parameters for each of the first and second colors; and
 - defining a first mixed color group including a first plurality of mixed color swatches each representing a mixture of an amount of the first color and an amount of the second color, the amounts of the first color and the second color for each of the mixed color swatches being defined according to a function of the color parameters of the first and second colors.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - displaying a representation of the first mixed color group.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein:
 - displaying a representation of the first mixed color group includes displaying a representation of the first plurality of mixed color swatches as an arrangement of discrete colors.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein:
 - the first ink is a spot ink.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein:
 - the second ink is a spot ink or a process ink.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein:
 - the color parameters include an initial amount, an increment value, and a repeat value for each of the first color and the second color.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein:
defining a first mixed color group includes calculating the amount of each of the first color and the second color for each of the plurality of mixed color swatches based on the initial amounts, the increment values and the repeat values.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein:
receiving data representing the first and second colors and the one or more color parameters includes receiving user input.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein:
receiving user input includes receiving user input in a graphical user interface.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein:
receiving data representing the first and second colors and the one or more color parameters includes receiving data from a memory.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein:
receiving data representing the first and second colors and the one or more color parameters includes receiving at least one of the first color, the second color, or one of the one or more color parameters separately.
12. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving data representing a third color representing a third ink; and
defining a second mixed color group of swatches based on the first mixed color group and the third color.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein:
the third color is represented by one of the mixed color swatches of the first mixed color group.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein:
defining a second mixed color group includes adding one or more mixed color swatches to the first mixed color group based at least in part on the third color.
15. The method of claim 12, wherein:
defining a second mixed color group includes redefining the first mixed color group by substituting the third color for one of the first color or the second color.
16. The method of claim 12, further comprising:
receiving data defining one or more color parameters for the third color;
wherein defining a second mixed color group includes defining a second mixed color group including a second plurality of mixed color swatches each representing a mixture of an amount of two or more of the first color, the second color and the third color, the amounts of each color for each of the mixed color swatches being defined according to a function of the color parameters of the corresponding color.
17. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
storing the first plurality of mixed color swatches in association with the first mixed color group.

18. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving user input specifying a change to the first mixed color group; and
modifying the first mixed color group according to the specified change.
19. The method of claim 18, wherein:
the first color represents a spot ink;
receiving user input includes converting the first color to two or more colors,
where the two or more colors represent process inks; and
modifying the first mixed color group includes determining the percentage of
the two or more colors representing process inks required to produce the mixed color
swatches of the first mixed color group.
20. The method of claim 18, wherein:
the user input identifies a mixed color swatch of the first plurality of mixed
color swatches; and
modifying the first mixed color group includes deleting the identified mixed
color swatch from the first mixed color group.
21. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
defining at least one tint for one of the mixed color swatches; and
modifying the first mixed color group to include a swatch representing the at
least one tint.
22. The method of claim 21, further comprising:
displaying a representation of the modified first mixed color group.
23. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a change to a parameter of at least one mixed color swatch; and
modifying the mixed color swatch according to the received change.

24. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - associating a mixed color swatch of the plurality of first mixed color swatches with one or more locations in a document.
25. The method of claim 24, further comprising:
 - receiving a change to a parameter of the mixed color swatch;
 - modifying the mixed color swatch according to the received change; and
 - associating the modified mixed color swatch with the one or more locations in the document.
26. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for creating mixed color groups, the computer product comprising instructions to cause a computer system to:
 - receive data representing a first color representing a first ink and a second color representing a second ink and one or more color parameters for each of the first and second colors; and
 - define a first mixed color group including a first plurality of mixed color swatches each representing a mixture of an amount of the first color and an amount of the second color, the amounts of the first color and the second color for each of the mixed color swatches being defined according to a function of the color parameters of the first and second colors.
27. The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:
 - display a representation of the first mixed color group.

28. The computer program product of claim 27, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to display a representation of the first mixed color group includes instructions operable to cause the computer program to display a representation of the first plurality of mixed color swatches as an arrangement of discrete colors.
29. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein:
the first ink is a spot ink.
30. The computer program product of claim 29, wherein:
the second ink is a spot ink or a process ink.
31. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein:
the color parameters include an initial amount, an increment value, and a repeat value for each of the first color and the second color.
32. The computer program product of claim 31, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to define a first mixed color group includes instructions operable to cause the computer program to calculate the amount of each of the first color and the second color for each of the plurality of mixed color swatches based on the initial amounts, the increment values and the repeat values.
33. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive data representing the first and second colors and the one or more color parameters includes instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive user input.

34. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive user input includes include instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive user input in a graphical user interface.
35. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive data representing the first and second colors and the one or more color parameters includes instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive data from a memory.
36. The computer program product of claim 35, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive data representing the first and second colors and the one or more color parameters includes instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive at least one of the first color, the second color, or one of the one or more color parameters separately.
37. The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:
receive data representing a third color representing a third ink; and
define a second mixed color group of swatches based on the first mixed color group and the third color.
38. The computer program product of claim 37, wherein:
the third color is represented by one of the mixed color swatches of the first mixed color group.
39. The computer program product of claim 37, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to define a second mixed color group include instructions operable to add one or more color swatches to the first mixed color group based at least in part on the third color.

40. The computer program product of claim 37, wherein:
the instructions operable to cause the computer program to define a second mixed color group include instructions operable to redefine the first mixed color group by substituting the third color for one of the first color or the second color.
41. The computer program product of claim 37, further comprising:
instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive data defining one or more color parameters for the third color;
wherein the instructions operable to cause the computer program to receive a second mixed color group include instructions operable to cause the computer program to define a second mixed color group including a second plurality of mixed color swatches each representing a mixture of an amount of two or more of the first color, the second color and the third color, the amounts of each color for each of the mixed color swatches being defined according to a function of the color parameters of the corresponding color.
42. The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising:
instructions operable to cause the computer program to store the first plurality of mixed color swatches in association with the first mixed color group.
43. The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:
receive user input specifying a change to the first mixed color group; and
modify the first mixed color group according to the specified change.
44. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein:
the first color represents a spot ink;
the instructions to receive user input include instructions to convert the first color to two or more colors, where the two or more colors represent process inks; and
the instructions to modify the first mixed color group include instructions to determine the percentage of the two or more colors representing process inks required to produce the mixed color swatches of the first mixed color group.

45. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein:
 - the user input identifies a mixed color swatch of the first plurality of mixed color swatches; and
 - the instructions operable to cause the computer program to modify the first mixed color group include deleting the identified mixed color swatch from the first mixed color group.
46. The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:
 - define at least one tint for one of the mixed color swatches; and
 - modify the first mixed color group to include a swatch representing the at least one tint.
47. The computer program product of claim 46, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:
 - display a representation of the modified first mixed color group.
48. The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:
 - receive a change to a parameter of at least one mixed color swatch; and
 - modify the mixed color swatch according to the received change.
49. The computer program product of claim 26, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:
 - associate a mixed color swatch of the plurality of first mixed color swatches with one or more locations in a document.

50. The computer program product of claim 49, further comprising instructions operable to cause the computer program to:

receive a change to a parameter of the mixed color swatch;

modify the mixed color swatch according to the received change; and

associate the modified mixed color swatch with the one or more locations in the document.